

REMARKS

This amendment is being filed prior to payment of the issue fee. Entry of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested. The amendment does not change the scope of the claims with respect to the subject matter indicated as being allowable in the May 02, 2006, Office Action. Accordingly, entry of the amendment is requested.

Specifically, Applicant amends claim 1 to place the language regarding the torque converter into the preamble of the claim so that it applies to the “belt-type continuously variable transmission including a forward clutch.” The amendment to claim 1 reflects the structure of previously pending claim 3 when it was indicated as containing allowable subject matter (i.e., the language relating to the torque converter was in the preamble of claim 3, and also applied to the “belt-type continuously variable transmission including a forward clutch”).

Applicants also amend claim 1 to add the term “valve” as indicated for antecedent basis purposes.

Applicants thank Examiner Marcus for allowing the present application.

Examiner Marcus is also thanked for extending the courtesy of a telephone interview to Applicant’s representatives in the beginning of December, 2006, in which it was agreed that the above amendments could be submitted via a 312 amendment.

In view of the telephone interview held in the beginning of December, 2006, Applicant submits that the above provides a complete and proper recordation of the substance of the interview, per MPEP §713.04.

It is believed that no fees are due in connection with this Rule 312 amendment. In the event this is not correct, the undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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